

# Wolf-livestock conflict in Teanaway pack, 2015

Updated: August 6, 2015

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## Background

The Teanaway pack is located in central Washington, just north of Cle Elum. It includes at least five members, but it is not known whether the pack produced pups in 2015. The Department documented a confirmed wolf attack on a guarding dog in 2011, but the pack had no known history of confirmed wolf depredations on livestock until July 16, 2015. For more details on the pack, see the [2015 Wolf Conflict-Deterrence Updates](#).

## Producer #1

This livestock producer, who experienced wolf depredations in July 2015, grazes 360 cattle (180 cow-calf pairs) under a permit from the Washington Department of Natural Resources. The producer also operates under a damage prevention agreement with WDFW that is designed to implement preventive measures, such as calving on fenced property, using range riders to increase human presence near cattle, and removing dead livestock to avoid attracting wolves.

## Producer #2

The second producer grazes about 1,500 domestic sheep under a permit from the U.S. Forest Service and grazes another 450 sheep under a lease with a private property owner. The producer operates under a damage prevention agreement with WDFW that is designed to implement preventive measures, such as lambing location, using range riders to increase human presence near sheep, and removing dead livestock to avoid attracting wolves.

## Addressing wolf-livestock conflict

WDFW's [Wolf Conservation and Management Plan](#) describes the strategies and management actions for minimizing wolf depredations on livestock. The Department emphasizes the use of non-lethal, preventive measures as the first line of defense for minimizing conflict. Lethal removal of wolves may be used to stop repeated depredation if it is documented that livestock have been clearly killed by wolves, non-lethal methods have been tried but failed to resolve the conflict, depredations are likely to continue, and there is no evidence of intentional feeding or unnatural attraction of wolves by the livestock owner. The Department, with review by a citizen-stakeholder Wolf Advisory Group, has further defined the conditions for the use of lethal action through the development of a checklist that identifies the non-lethal methods required and a [Protocol for Lethal Control](#) (and [flow-chart](#)) describing the process for considering such an action. A chronology of events and responses by WDFW are shown below.

## Teanaway Chronology

Date	Preventive Measures	Depredation Event and Observations	Management action	Comments
June 2, 2015 <b>Producer #2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WDFW and producer discussed turnout dates and the damage prevention agreement.</li> </ul>	None	None	
Prior to June 9, 2015 <b>Producer #1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Producer completed calving on fenced private range away from areas occupied by wolves and near the main ranch with high human and vehicle activity.</li> </ul>	None	None	
June 9-16, 2015 <b>Producer #1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Producer turned out 180 cow/calf pairs onto summer DNR allotment (North Fork, Middle Fork, and West Fork Teanaway River areas). Cattle distributed in multiple drainages.</li> <li>Calves weighed more than 200 pounds at turnout.</li> <li>Range rider worked area daily and had locations of collared wolves in the pack and telemetry equipment.</li> <li>No cattle were observed sick or injured.</li> <li>Fladry fencing in place.</li> </ul>	None	None	WDFW Conflict Staff discussed wolf locations with producer.
June 15, 2015 <b>Producer #2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WDFW and the second producer discussed moving his sheep..</li> </ul>	None	None	
June 22-23, 2015 <b>Producer #1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Range rider worked area daily and had locations of collared wolves in the pack and telemetry equipment.</li> <li>Fladry fencing in place.</li> </ul>	Yearling female wolf located on Cle Elum ridge by telemetry	None	
July 1, 2015 <b>Producer #2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Range rider began daily operations in preparation for sheep move.</li> </ul>	None	None	
July 9, 2015 <b>Producer #2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Range rider worked area daily.</li> </ul>	<b>Cougar depredation:</b> two dead sheep	Cougar Euthanized	
July 13, 2015 <b>Producer #2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Producer moved sheep to new grazing allotment.</li> </ul>	None	None	
July 16, 2015 <b>Producer #1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Range rider worked area daily and had locations of collared wolves in the pack and telemetry</li> </ul>	<b>Confirmed wolf depredation #1:</b> one dead	None	Notified by WSU graduate student of one dead adult cow. Notified USFWS and completed depredation

	equipment. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fladry fencing in place.</li> </ul>	adult cow		investigation. WDFW staff confirmed the cow was killed by a wolf.
July 20, 2015 <b>Producer #2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WDFW notified producer of wolf activity and depredation of cow.</li> </ul>	None	None	
July 17-29, 2015 <b>Producer #1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Range rider worked area using telemetry daily.</li> <li>• Fladry fencing in place.</li> </ul>	None	None	
July 28, 2015 <b>Producer #2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WDFW notified producer of wolf locations.</li> <li>• Range rider working area to increase human presence.</li> <li>• Sheep locations discussed.</li> </ul>	None	None	
July 30, 2015 <b>Producer #2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Range rider working area to increase human presence.</li> <li>• Guard dogs assisting herder.</li> </ul>	None	None	Producer reported to WDFW that more dogs were being sent to Teanaway to assist herder.
August 4, 2015 <b>Producer #1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Range rider worked area using telemetry daily.</li> <li>• Fladry fencing in place.</li> </ul>	None	None	
August 6, 2015 <b>Producer #2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WDFW discussed wolf locations.</li> <li>• 11 dogs involved in herding operation.</li> <li>• Range rider working area.</li> </ul>	None	None	
August 10, 2015 <b>Producer #1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Range rider worked area using telemetry daily.</li> <li>• Fladry fencing in place.</li> </ul>	None	One dead cow carcass removed. No scavenging detected. No carnivores involved.	
August 11, 2015 <b>Producer #2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WDFW shared wolf locations.</li> <li>• Range rider working area</li> <li>• Guard dogs assisting herder</li> </ul>	None	None	GPS collared wolves detected in immediate vicinity of sheep herd
August 12, 2015 <b>Producer #2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WDFW shared wolf locations.</li> <li>• Range rider working area.</li> <li>• Guard dogs assisting herder.</li> </ul>	None	None	
August 13, 2015 <b>Producer #2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WDFW shared wolf locations.</li> <li>• Range rider working area.</li> <li>• Guard dogs assisting herder.</li> </ul>	None	None	Herder injured with sprained ankle. New sheepherder will fill in.
August 14, 2015 <b>Producer #2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WDFW shared wolf locations.</li> <li>• Range rider working area.</li> <li>• Guard dogs assisting herder.</li> </ul>	None	None	

